

I claim:

1. (Previously amended, one time) A method of treating infectious diseases caused by drug-resistant strains of bacteria in a human or an animal host comprising:

Administration to the area of disease a suitable carrier containing an antibacterial agent obtainable from pepper, [or an equivalent] in a therapeutically effective concentration.

2. (Withdrawn) A method of treating superficial bacterial infections in a human or an animal host comprising:

Administration to the area of disease a suitable carrier containing an antibacterial agent obtainable from pepper, or an equivalent in a therapeutically effective concentration.

3. (Withdrawn) A method of treating internal bacterial infections in a human or an animal host comprising:

Administration to the area of disease a suitable carrier containing an antibacterial agent obtainable from pepper, or an equivalent in a therapeutically effective concentration.

4. (Previously amended, one time) A method of treating bacterial infections in a human or an animal host comprising:

Administration to the area of disease a suitable carrier containing an antibacterial phytoalexin obtainable from pepper, [or an equivalent] in a therapeutically effective concentration.

5. (Previously amended, one time) A method of treating cellulitis in a human or an animal host comprising:

Administration to the area of disease a suitable carrier containing an antibacterial agent obtainable from pepper, [or an equivalent] in a therapeutically effective concentration.

6. (Previously amended, one time) The method of claim 5, wherein the disease [includes] is necrotizing fasciitis (flesh eating disease).

7. (Previously amended, one time) A method of treating infectious diseases caused by *Staphylococcus* bacteria in a human or an animal host comprising:

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the bacteria is *Staphylococcus aureus*.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the *Staphylococcus* bacteria is drug resistant.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the infectious disease is classified as a superficial infection.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the infectious disease is classified as internal or systemic infection.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the disease is cellulitis.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said administration is topical.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said administration is internal or systemic.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said solvent is alcohol.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said solvent is acetone.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said pepper is black pepper.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said pepper is capsicum pepper.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said pepper is red pepper.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said pepper is paprika.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said equivalent is ginger.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said equivalent is turmeric.